

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 03536 271408Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
ACDA-12 TRSE-00 /078 W
-----069945 280032Z /70

R 271322Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5632
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU, UR
SUBJ: REACTION TO ANKARA VISIT OF SOVIET CHIEF OF STAFF

1. THE ATHENS PRESS ON APRIL 27 GAVE WIDE COVERAGE TO THE VISIT TO ANKARA OF SOVIET MARSHAL NIKOLAI OGARKOV. PARTICULAR EMPHASIS WAS GIVEN TO WIRE SERVICE AND TURKISH PRESS REPORTS THAT OGARKOV IN HIS PUBLIC STATEMENTS HAD OFFERED TURKEY MILITARY COOPERATION.

2. REPRESENTATIVE HEADLINES WERE ULTRA RIGHT ELEFTHEROS KOSMOS "RUSSIA OFFERS ARMS TO TURKEY, STRENGTHENS ECEVIT'S POSITION ON THE EMBARGO", AND PRO-GOVERNMENT VRADYNI "MOSCOW SUPPORTING ECEVIT, WILLING TO GIVE ARMS SHOULD EMBARGO BE CONTINUED." IN CONTRAST, THE TWO COMMUNIST DAILIES, THE EURO-COMMUNIST AVGHI AND MOSCOW-ORIENTED RIZOSPASTIS, CARRIED SMALL ARTICLES REPORTING THE FURTHER STRENGTHENING OF RELATIONS BETWEEN RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

3. COMMENT: WHILE THERE HAS NOT YET BEEN ANY EDITORIAL
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COMMENT ON OGARKOV'S REMARKS CONCERNING MILITARY COOPERATION, IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE HOW GREEK PUBLIC OPINION REACTS TO THIS NEW WRINKLE IN WHAT HERE IS THE SENSITIVE SUBJECT OF MILITARY AID TO TURKEY.
MCCLOSKEY

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Message Attributes

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